for wheat for the Public Distribution System, Welfare Schemes and Open Market Sales is estimated at 150 lakh tons.

Insecticides banned or under review

†*8. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some insecticides have been banned in the country and some others have been put into the "Review List",

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that inspite of the ban the insecticides are being sold in the market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government are contemplating to formulate a policy in this regard to prevent the adverse effects of insecticides?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Twenty five insecticides and their formulations and four insecticide formulations are banned for import, manufacture and use in the country. In addition, two insecticides have been banned for use in the country except their manufacture for export. Restriction has been imposed on use of nine insecticides. The list of insecticides banned and restricted is given in the Statement (*See* below)

The usage of thirty seven insecticides has been reviewed by an Expert Group constituted by the Registration Committee, under the Insecticides Act, 1968. The recommendations of the Expert Group regarding twenty one pesticides have been accepted by the Government. Consequently, the use of Fenitrothion and Fenthion is banned in agriculture except for locust control in scheduled desert area and public health and the use of Diazinon has been banned in agriculture except for household purposes. The use of Metoxuron has also been withdrawn. The recommendations regarding remaining pesticides are under consideration of the Government.

(c) The Government does not have any report regarding sale of banned pesticides.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Insecticides Act, 1968, is already in place which lays down a comprehensive policy to prevent the adverse effects of insecticides. The Act regulates the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides with a view to preventing risk to human beings or animals, and for matters connected therewith. The Act, *inter alia*, provides for penal action against manufacture, sale and distribution of spurious pesticides. Promotion of Integrated Pest Management, a strategy which envisages cultural, mechanical and biological methods of pest control and need based judicious use of pesticides, is also an important constituent of the Government policy. The Central and State Governments also take steps to create awareness among the farmers for safe use of pesticides.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

List of Pesticides/Pesticides Formulations Banned in India

A. Pesticides Banned for manufacture, import and use (25 Nos.)

1. Aldrin
2. Benzene Hexachloride
3. Calcium Cyanide
4. Chlordane
5. Copper Acetoarsenite
6. CIbromochloropropane
7. Endrin
8. Ethyl Mercury Chloridc
9. Ethyl Parathion
10. Heptachlor
11. Menazone
12. Nitrofen
13. Paraquat Dimethyl Sulphate
14. Pentachloro Nitrobenzene
15. Pentachlorophenol
16. Phenyl Mercury Acetate
17. Sodium Methane Arsonate
18. Tetradifon
19. Toxafen
20. Aldicarb
21. Chlorobenzilate
22. Dieldrine
23. Maleic Hydrazide
24. Ethylene Dibromide
25. TCA (Trichloro acetic acid)

B. Pesticide formulations banned for import, manufacture and use (4 Nos.)

1. Methomyl 24%L
2. Methomyl 12.5%L
3. Phosphamidon 85%SL
4. Carbofurn 50%SP

C. Pesticide/Pesticide formulations banned for use but their manufacture is allowed for export (2 Nos.)

1. Nicotin Sulfate
2. Captafol 80% Powder

D. Pesticides restricted for use in India

1. Aluminium Phosphide
2. DDT
3. Lindane
4. Methyl Bromide
5. Methl Parathion
6. Sodium Cyanide
7. Methoxy Ethyl Merciru Chloride (MEMC)
8. Monocrotophos (ban for use on vegetables)
9. Fenitrothion

Patenting of Indigenous Seeds by Multinational Companies

†*9. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the multinational companies are misleading the poor farmers by patenting indigenous seeds in the name of GM (Genetically Modified);

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against such companies and the efforts made to check it; and

(c) the effort being made by Government for scientific study and development of the indigenous seeds?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Bt. cotton is the only genetically modified crop approved for commercial cultivation in the country by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of the Ministry of Environment and Forests constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. All the Bt. cotton hybrids have been developed by private seed companies from Indian cultivators using genetically modified seeds procured from Monsanto of USA, Biotechnology Transgenes China Corporation and IIT, Kharagpur. Seeds are not patentable under Section 3 (j) of The Patents Act, 1970 as amended in 2002. However, the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 has been enacted and operationalized for protection of the rights of farmers, plant breeders, researchers and local communities.

(c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned a project for development of Transgenics to increase yield and quality of different crops. The National Agriculture Research System is continuously engaged in development of new and improved varieties of crops.

Chikungunya in Kerala

*10. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE to pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported spreading of Chikungunya in Kerala in large scale, affecting thousands of people and resulting in the death of a number of people;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.